

Message Text

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ORIGIN ARA-10

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INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 EB-08 AGRE-00 FEA-01
ACDA-10 IO-13 NRC-07 OES-06 ERDA-07 STR-04 AID-05
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DRAFTED BY ARA/ECA:RELTZ
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EUR/RPE;ASENS (INFO)

-----040240Z 014147 /14

O 040157Z MAR 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY BRASILIA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY BONN IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS STATE 048127

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS:OVIP (CHRISTOPHER, WARREN), PARM, ENRG, ETRD, BR,GW

SUBJECT:STATEMENTS BY DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN IN RESPONSE
QUERIES RE: DEPUTY SECRETARY'S TRIP

1. FOLLOWING IS EXCERPT FROM DEPARTMENT'S NOON BRIEFING
MARCH 3:

BEGIN TEXT:

Q. NOW THAT MR. CHRISTOPHER HAS HAD TIME TO MAKE A FULL
REPORT ON HIS TALKS IN BRASILIA, CAN YOU SHARE WITH US SOME-
THING MORE THAN YOU DID YESTERDAY?

A. ROBERTO, I DO NOT HAVE MUCH MORE TO GIVE YOU. I
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GAVE YOU YESTERDAY, I BELIEVE, THE BRIEF JOINT STATEMENT.
I UNDERSTAND THAT THE TALKS IN BRAZIL PROCEEDED MUCH AS
MR. CHRISTOPHER HAD ANTICIPATED. THERE WERE TWO SESSIONS
ON MARCH 1ST. THE TALKS HAVE BEEN RECESSED TO ALLOW
BRAZIL TO ANALYZE AND CONSIDER THE SUGGESTIONS WHICH WE PUT
FORWARD, AND WE WILL DO THE SAME.

Q. FRED, --

A. LET ME JUST ADD -- ROBERTO, DO YOU HAVE ANYTHING FURTHER ON THAT?

Q. YES. I HAVE A FEW QUESTIONS MORE. THE WASHINGTON POST SAID TODAY THAT MR. CHRISTOPHER OFFERED GUARANTEED SUPPLIES OF NUCLEAR FUEL FOR THE BRAZILIAN REACTORS IN EXCHANGE OF CANCELLATION OF THE REPROCESSING AND ENRICHMENT FACILITIES BRAZIL WOULD GET FROM GERMANY. CAN YOU CONFIRM THAT?

A. NO. I REALLY CANNOT CONFIRM THAT. I CANNOT REALLY GET INTO THE DETAILS OF THE DISCUSSIONS OTHER THAN TO SAY THAT WE HAVE EXPRESSED OUR INTEREST IN PURSUING SAFE AND RELIABLE ALTERNATIVES WHICH WILL MEET THE ENERGY NEEDS NOT ONLY OF BRAZIL BUT OF OTHER COUNTRIES WITH PRESENT AND PLANNED NUCLEAR POWER PROGRAMS.

Q. HOW ABOUT THE PROPOSAL REPORTEDLY MADE BY MR. CHRISTOPHER OF INTERNATIONALIZATION OF THESE REPROCESSING AND ENRICHMENT FACILITIES? THERE HAVE BEEN WIDE REPORTS IN THE AMERICAN PRESS ABOUT THAT. CAN YOU SAY WHETHER THESE REPORTS ARE BEING THOUGHT ABOUT IN THE STATE DEPARTMENT, OR CAN YOU DENY THEM?

A. I AM NOT IN A POSITION TO ADDRESS IT RIGHT NOW.

Q. FRED, YOU SAID THAT THE TALKS WERE RECESSED TO GIVE UNCLASSIFIED

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BRAZIL TIME TO STUDY THE U.S. SUGGESTIONS OR PROPOSALS.

A. YES.

Q. COULD YOU SHARE WITH US THOSE PROPOSALS?

A. NO. I AM AFRAID I COULD NOT, JUAN.

Q. DID MR. CHRISTOPHER DISCUSS COFFEE PRICES DOWN THERE?

A. I DO NOT THINK SO. I THINK IT IS STRICTLY NUCLEAR PROLIFERATION WHICH WAS THE SUBJECT OF HIS VISIT.

Q. CONGRESSMAN ROSENTHAL SEEMS TO THINK THE STATE DEPARTMENT IS AT FAULT FOR THE RISING PRICE OF COFFEE.

A. I DO NOT THINK WE SHARE THAT OPINION.

Q. MR. KATZ DIDN'T AGREE?

A. NO. MR. KATZ DID NOT AGREE. WE DO NOT AGREE.

Q. IS HE JUST TOTALLY WRONG? IS THERE NO RESPONSIBILITY
THAT THE STATE DEPARTMENT HAS IN THIS MATTER?

A. MARVIN, WHY DON'T I GET YOU A GOOD ANSWER TO THAT.
I WILL TRY TO GET YOU SOMETHING THIS AFTERNOON ON IT.

Q. I JUST HAVE ONE MORE QUESTION, FRED.

A. IS THIS STILL ON BRAZIL?

Q. YES. IN THE STORY IN THE POST AND SOMETHING THAT CAME
UP YESTERDAY, TOO, TALKED ABOUT AN ABRUPT ENDING ON THE
TALKS AFTER ONLY ONE DAY. COULD YOU COMMENT ON THAT?

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A. SURE.

Q. ONE DAY WAS SCHEDULED.

A. I COMMENTED ON THAT YESTERDAY. ONE DAY WAS THE AGREED
ON DURATION AND THE WORD "ABRUPT" IS YOUR CHARACTERIZATION,
NOT OURS. THE TALKS WERE NOT EXPECTED TO LAST FOR TWO OR
THREE DAYS AND WE HAD AGREED BEFOREHAND TO LIMIT THIS
ROUND OF DISCUSSIONS TO ONE DAY.
WE INTEND TO HAVE FURTHER CONSULTATIONS WITH BRAZIL
AND OTHER INTERESTED PARTIES ON NUCLEAR MATTERS. SO, I
THINK, WITH ALL DUE RESPECT, THE WASHINGTON POST'S CHARAC-
TERIZATION PERHAPS WAS NOT ENTIRELY ACCURATE.

Q. FRED --

A. YES.

Q. I AM AFRAID YOU DID NOT SAY YESTERDAY FOR HOW LONG YOU
HAD PLANNED THE MEETINGS.

A. NO. I DID NOT SAY IT YESTERDAY.

Q. YOU REFUSED TO SAY THAT.

A. THAT WAS MY UNDERSTANDING. THAT WAS THE ORIGINAL
UNDERSTANDING.

Q. WAS THERE ANY SPECIAL REASON FOR YOU TO REFUSE TO
COMMENT EVEN ON A SIMPLE MATTER LIKE THIS?

A. ON WHAT? I AM SORRY.

Q. ON THE DURATION, PLANNED DURATION.

A. I DID NOT KNOW YESTERDAY.

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Q. NOW, THE COMMUNIQUE THAT WAS ISSUED AFTER TALKS, DOES IT REFLECT THE TONE IN WHICH THE CONVERSATIONS WERE CONDUCTED?

A. I HAVE NO FEELING FOR THE TONE OF THE CONVERSATIONS OTHER THAN WHAT I HAVE GIVEN YOU, ROBERTO.

Q. WAS THE ABSENCE OF THE FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIALS AT THE AIRPORT CONSIDERED A DEMONSTRATION OF LACK OF COURTESY?

A. LET ME CORRECT THE RECORD. THE REPORT CONTAINED IN THE WASHINGTON POST WAS INNACURATE. THE HOUR OF DEPARTURE WAS 1:20 A.M. AND MR. CHRISTOPHER URGED THAT SENIOR OFFICIALS NEED NOT SEE HIM OFF AT THE AIRPORT. EVEN SO, SEVERAL REPRESENTATIVES OF THE FOREIGN MINISTRY WERE ON HAND. SO, I WOULD LIKE TO CORRECT THAT ASPECT OF THE STORY. OKAY?

A. OKAY.

Q. FRED, CAN I ASK ANOTHER QUESTION ABOUT BRAZIL?

A. SURE.

Q. THE FRG HAD DELAYED DELIVERY TO BRAZIL OF PLANS FOR REPROCESSING FACILITIES AT THE REQUEST OF THE STATE DEPARTMENT UNTIL THE RESULTS OF THE CHRISTOPHER MISSION WERE ANALYZED, AND THE FRG COMPLIED. WILL YOU REQUEST THAT BONN CONTINUE HOLDING IMPLEMENTATION OF THE AGREEMENT WHILE YOU CONTINUE THE TALKS WITH BRAZIL?

A. I DO NOT THINK I CAN REALLY ADDRESS THAT KIND OF QUESTION, ROBERTO.

Q. CAN YOU TAKE IT?

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A. I CAN. I AM NOT HOPEFUL OF GETTING AN ANSWER WHILE WE ARE IN THE MIDST OF DISCUSSIONS OF A VERY COMPLEX AND IMPORTATNT NATURE ON PROLIFERATION. I WILL LOOK INTO IT, BUT I AM NOT HOPEFUL THAT I WILL GET YOU A VERY GOOD REPLY TO THAT QUESTION.

Q. ALL RIGHT, THANK YOU.

END TEXT.
VANCE

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Message Attributes

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Sent Date: 04-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Event:
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Subject: STATEMENTS BY DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN IN RESPONSE QUERIES RE: DEPUTY SECRETARY'S TRIP
TAGS: OVIP, PARM, ENRG, ETRD, BR, GE, US, (CHRISTOPHER, WARREN)
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